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and Trademark Office to the Attention of **Examiner Jeff H. Aftergut**.

/Mark D. Saralino/

Mark D. Saralino

January 2, 2007

Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Hitoshi SATOH

Application No.: 10/695,088

Filing Date: October 28, 2003

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING AN ARTICLE

Examiner: Jeff H. Aftergut

Art Unit: 1733

***REPLY AFTER FINAL --
EXPEDITED HANDLING REQUESTED***

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED NOVEMBER 3, 2006

Sir:

Favorable reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully
requested in view of the following amendments and comments.